

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #37
January 30, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of RSU/MSAD #37 was held at Milbridge Elementary School, Milbridge, Maine on Wednesday, January 30, 2019 to consider and act upon the following items of business:

Board Members Present: Jeffery Beal, Everett Grant, Grace Kennedy, Ronald Kennedy, Debra Murphy, Charles Peterson, Jr., Vance Pineo, Jr., Dawn Robbins, and Mark Wright

Board Members Absent: Bethany Hartford, Gary Magby, and Kelly Moores

Other persons present: Ronald Ramsay, Lorna Greene, Susan Meserve, Maria White, Lucille Willey, Todd Emerson, Denise Vose, Ron Green, Brittany Ray, Laura Thomas, Ashley Cirone, Maggie Bourgois, Kandy Robertson, Tiffany Strout, and Dawn Fickett

MINUTES

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

1. **The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Vance Pineo.** He noted that Directors Hartford and Magby are excused from the meeting tonight due to other commitments.

2. **RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. **December 4, 2018 Annual Meeting**—Motion by Everett Grant, second by Dawn Robbins, and voted (654-yes, 108-abstentions) to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2018 Annual Meeting as printed. (Peterson abstained as he was absent.)
 - b. **December 19, 2018 Regular Meeting**—Motion by Jeffery Beal, second by Debra Murphy, and voted (unanimously) to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2018 regular meeting as printed.

3. **RE: REPORT—SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Including Legislative Updates)**

INFORMATION: Supt. Ramsay reported that he received word that our FEDES grant was approved for the CTE Vocational Education Partnership Downeast. We were one of four applications that were approved out of a total of 17. He has a meeting scheduled on 2/15 with the state to work out the details/negotiate the award.~He reported on attending the Superintendents' Winter Convocation in Freeport on January 17th and 18th. The new commissioner was there, and she noted her goal was to build back trust and be a place that provides answers to districts. She also said that ED279's are to be released by 2/15 if all goes well.~On January 7th, he, Lucille and Charlie Harrington visited WCCC in Calais to discuss a college immersion program this summer for 8th graders. This is a good facility to do it at and they are embracing the idea and working hard to make it a good experience for our students. It will be funded with our Gear Up Grant.~On January 22nd, a meeting was held in Machias for Washington County Superintendents whose schools are not making adequate progress. Our district was the only one in the county not represented because we were the only one with no failing schools!~He reported that he has received Lucille Willey's resignation as Narraguagus Principal, effective at the end of the school year. He expressed appreciation to Lucille for her five years as principal and the many years before that as a teacher serving the students in our district. We will begin advertising soon and will develop a screening/interview committee.

Vance Pineo, Jr., noted that he, Everett Grant, and Gary Magby attended a Board workshop put on by MSBA on January 12th. It was organized by Skip Greenlaw. The group met with Brian Langley, former legislator. They reviewed the ED279 to give board members a better understanding of the financial aspect. It was a very good meeting and they plan to hold more in the future.

4. RE: SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

INFORMATION:

- Athletics/Student Activities—Debra Murphy noted that the subcommittee met tonight with a potential candidate for the boy's travel team and will make a recommendation later on the agenda.
- Curriculum & Instruction—We need to reschedule the meeting that was postponed.
- Negotiations & Grievance—Mark Wright reported that this committee has been meeting with the Teachers' Association working on a successor contract.
- Policy & By-laws—Grace Kennedy noted that the committee met on 1/22 and reviewed some new or revised policies and will make a recommendation later on the agenda.
- Facilities, Maintenance, Safety, & Transportation—None

5. RE: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INFORMATION: Superintendent Ramsay noted that the December financials reflect the half-way point of the fiscal year. We are a little ahead of where we need to be at this point, so doing well.

6. RE: ADMIN REPORTS INCLUDING ESSA, G/T, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

INFORMATION: Maria White reported that enrollment at Milbridge is 125 with 24 ELL students, 15 students receiving direct services in the Special Education Resource Room, and 31 receiving Speech/Language services. Jr. High basketball is winding down. There seems to be a lot of interest for pee-wee ball starting after vacation. She then introduced Brittany Ray and Laura Thomas to do a presentation on the TREE program.

Brittany, who is the director of TREE, noted that this is a pilot research program in cooperation with UMO, Colby College, and the Cobscook Community Learning Center. Its focus is helping schools become "trauma informed" so that they know how trauma affects the learning process for students. Staff learns what adverse childhood experiences are and why schools are critical to addressing adversity. Laura Thomas shared a video of students at Milbridge engaged in TREE activities.

Lucille Willey reported an enrollment of 299 at Narraguagus. It has been busy with various athletic events, a Sadie Hawkins dance for jr. high, a performance by the Maine Steiners, and the District VI Honors Music Festival in Ellsworth which three of our students participated in.

Susan Meserve reported an enrollment of 146 Harrington. "Mad Science" entertained students on 12/21. The Chewonki Foundation visited on 1/18. Students enjoyed both performances. Skills & Drills Basketball for grades 3 and 4 started. Rank cards come out Friday marking the half-way point of the school year.

Denise Vose reported that 152 students are receiving special education services. We also have 24 students receiving 504 services. First aid and CPR training are being provided to all special education staff. Brittany Ray presented a session for special education teachers and administrators on being Trauma Informed.

Lorna Greene reported an enrollment of 102 at DW Merritt. On January 7th, students participated in "Celebrate Reading Day," and each student got a free book through a grant from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation. Jeanne Beal is coming in every Monday to read to Kindergarten students. She has 28 students participating in the grade 3/4 Skills & Drills program.~~The district's Leadership Team met on January 22nd and discussed absenteeism and strategies that can be used to improve attendance. She and Mr. Ramsay attended the Washington County Leadership Team meeting yesterday at UMM. They are looking at ideas for the fall Harvest of Ideas Workshop for Washington County staff.~~Title I is serving 104 students across the district.~~G/T students in grades 4-12 will be attending a performance by the African Culture Troup on January 31st.

7. **RE: AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS**

ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., second by Everett Grant, and voted (unanimously) to table this article as there are no adjustments necessary.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. **RE: HIRING BOYS' TRAVEL TEAM COACH**

ACTION: Debra Murphy noted that the Athletic Subcommittee met earlier tonight with John Batson for this position. The committee, along with the Superintendent, recommend he be hired. Motion by Mark Wright, second by Grace Kennedy, and voted (unanimously) to hire John Batson as boys' travel team coach as recommended.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. **RE: HIRING SUBSTITUTES**

ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Jeffery Beal, and voted (unanimously) to hire Becca Libby, Kirsten Lisee, Crystal Perry, and Martha Russ as substitute teachers as recommended by the Superintendent.

2. **RE: CONSIDERATION OF FIRST READING OF REVISED/NEW POLICIES**

a. ADC/ADC-R Tobacco Use and Possession Policy & Procedure (revised)

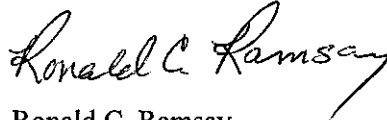
b. JICJ Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices (new)

ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to approve the first readings of revised policy/procedure ADC/ADC-R and new policy JICJ.

3. **RE: ADJOURNMENT**

ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., and voted (unanimously) to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald C. Ramsay
Secretary to the Board

MEETING SUMMARY, January 30, 2019

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

2. APPROVED minutes of the 12/4/18 annual meeting and 12/19/18 regular meeting;

7. TABLED agenda adjustments;

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. HIRED John Batson as Boys' Travel Team Coach;

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. HIRED B. Libby, K. Lisee, C. Perry, and M. Russ as substitute teachers;

2. APPROVED first readings of revised policies ADC/ADC-R and new policy JICJ